

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**PCT****INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION STATUS FORM
(IASF)**

Date of issue of this IASF:
 (the information contained in this IASF reflects the status
 of the international application as of this date)
 09 February 2006 (09.02.2006)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 Commissioner for Patents,
 P.O.Box 1450
 Alexandria VA 22313 -1450
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

| I - INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION | | |
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| I-1 | International application number: | PCT/GB2004/003154 |
| I-2 | International filing date: | 19 July 2004 (19.07.2004) |
| I-3 | Earliest priority date: | 25 July 2003 (25.07.2003) |
| I-4 | Title of the invention: | DRILLING METHOD |
| I-5 | International Patent Classification: | ⁷ E21B 33/13 |
| I-6 | Language of filing: | English |
| I-7 | The State for which the Office acts as a designated Office has been designated in the international application: | Yes |
| I-7-1 | Indication of the State(s) designated in the international application in respect of which the Office acts as a designated Office (only where the designated Office is a regional Office): | Not applicable |
| I-7-2 | The international application has been considered withdrawn in a declaration made by the receiving Office on (date): | Not applicable |
| I-7-3 | The international application or the designation of the State for which the Office acts as a designated Office has been withdrawn by the applicant (date on which withdrawal became effective): | Not applicable |
| I-7-4 | Kind of protection or treatment: | Patent |
| I-7-4-1 | Identification of parent application or parent grant: | Not applicable |
| I-8 | Date of receipt of record copy by the International Bureau: | 09 August 2004 (09.08.2004) |
| I-9 | Applicant(s) and/or inventor(s) for the State(s) for which the Office acts as a designated Office | |
| I-9-1 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| I-9-1-1 | Data currently on record | |
| I-9-1-1-1 | Applicant's and/or inventor's name: | ALBERTY, Mark, William |
| I-9-1-1-2 | Address: | 2918 Rosemary Park Lane Houston, TX 77082 United States of America |
| I-9-1-1-3 | State of nationality: | US |
| I-9-1-1-4 | State of residence: | US |
| I-9-1-1-5 | This person is: | Applicant and inventor |

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| I-9-1-2 | Data previously on record (in case of a change recorded by the International Bureau under Rule 92 <i>bis</i>): | No data previously on record available for inclusion in this IASF; any such data is available from the IB. |
| I-9-1-3 | Indication of the State(s) designated in the international application for the purposes of which the person is an applicant and/or inventor (only where the designated Office is a regional Office): | Not applicable |
| I-9-2 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| I-9-2-1 | Data currently on record | |
| I-9-2-1-1 | Applicant's and/or inventor's name: | ASTON, Mark, Shelton |
| I-9-2-1-2 | Address: | 35 Fairfax Road Teddington Middlesex TW11 9DJ United Kingdom |
| I-9-2-1-3 | State of nationality: | GB |
| I-9-2-1-4 | State of residence: | GB |
| I-9-2-1-5 | This person is: | Applicant and inventor |
| I-9-2-2 | Data previously on record (in case of a change recorded by the International Bureau under Rule 92 <i>bis</i>): | No data previously on record available for inclusion in this IASF; any such data is available from the IB. |
| I-9-2-3 | Indication of the State(s) designated in the international application for the purposes of which the person is an applicant and/or inventor (only where the designated Office is a regional Office): | Not applicable |
| I-9-3 | Applicant and/or inventor | |
| I-9-3-1 | Data currently on record | |
| I-9-3-1-1 | Applicant's and/or inventor's name: | MCLEAN, Micheal, Richard |
| I-9-3-1-2 | Address: | 8 Riverfield Road Staines Middlesex TW18 2EE United Kingdom |
| I-9-3-1-3 | State of nationality: | GB |
| I-9-3-1-4 | State of residence: | GB |
| I-9-3-1-5 | This person is: | Applicant and inventor |
| I-9-3-2 | Data previously on record (in case of a change recorded by the International Bureau under Rule 92 <i>bis</i>): | No data previously on record available for inclusion in this IASF; any such data is available from the IB. |
| I-9-3-3 | Indication of the State(s) designated in the international application for the purposes of which the person is an applicant and/or inventor (only where the designated Office is a regional Office): | Not applicable |
| I-10 | The international application contains sequence listings and/or tables filed under Section 801(a) of the Administrative Instructions: | No |
| I-11 | The following declaration(s) referred to in Rule 4.17 made for the purposes of the State(s) for which the Office acts as a designated Office was (were) contained in the international application as filed or received by the International Bureau before the expiration of the time limit under Rule 20 <i>r.1</i> : | |
| I-11-1 | Declaration(s) as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51 <i>bis.1(a)(i)</i>): | Not applicable |
| I-11-2 | Declaration(s) as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51 <i>bis.1(a)(ii)</i>): | Not applicable |
| I-11-3 | Combined declaration(s) as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51 <i>bis.1(a)(i)</i>) and the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51 <i>bis.1(a)(ii)</i>): | Not applicable |

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| I-11-4 | Declaration(s) as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rules 4.17(iii) and 51b/s.1(a)(iii)): | 1 |
| I-11-5 | Declaration(s) of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America) (Rules 4.17 (iv) and 51b/s.1(a)(iv)): | 1 |
| I-11-6 | Declaration(s) as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rules 4.17(v) and 51b/s.1(a) (v)): | Not applicable |
| II - PRIORITY CLAIM(S) | | |
| II-1 | Number of earlier application: | 60/489,917 |
| II-1-1 | Filing date of earlier application: | 25 July 2003 (25.07.2003) |
| II-1-2 | Country in which, or regional Office or receiving Office with which earlier application was filed (where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indication of the country party to the Paris Convention or Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed): | US |
| II-1-3 | Priority document received at the International Bureau on: | 14 September 2004 (14.09.2004) |
| II-1-4 | Priority document submitted or transmitted in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (only where priority document was received at the International Bureau): | Yes |
| II-1-5 | Applicant has requested the receiving Office to prepare and transmit the priority document in compliance with Rule 17.1(b) (only where no priority document was received at the International Bureau): | Not applicable |
| II-1-6 | Priority claim withdrawn by a notice from the applicant (date on which withdrawal became effective; if the notice of withdrawal was received by the International Bureau after completion of technical preparations for international publication, such withdrawal will not have been reflected in the pamphlet) (Rule 90b/s.3): | Not applicable |
| II-1-7 | Declaration by the receiving Office or the International Bureau that priority claim is considered, for the purposes of the procedure under the Treaty, not to have been made (date of declaration) (Rule 26b/s.2(b)): | Not applicable |
| III - INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT | | |
| III-1 | International Searching Authority carrying out the international search: | ISA/EP |
| III-2 | International search report or declaration under Article 17 (2)(a) received by the International Bureau: | Yes |
| III-3 | Corrected version(s) of the international search report (if any) received by the International Bureau: | Not applicable |
| IV - REFERENCE TO DEPOSITED BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL | | Not applicable |
| V - INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION | | |
| V-1 | International publication number: | WO 2005/012687 (A1) |
| V-2 | International publication date: | 10 February 2005 (10.02.2005) |
| V-3 | Language of publication: | English |
| V-4 | Number of figure of drawing published together with the abstract: | Not applicable |
| V-5 | Republication(s) (republishing date(s) and reason(s)): | Not applicable |
| VI - INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (CHAPTER I) | | |
| VI-1 | International preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) issued by the International Bureau on: | Not applicable |

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| VI-2 | Corrected version(s) of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) (if any) issued by the International Bureau on: | Information not available for inclusion in this IASF |
| VII - INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION | | |
| VII-1 | A demand electing the State(s) for which the Office acts as an elected Office has been received by the International Preliminary Examining Authority (where the elected Office is a regional Office, indication of the State(s) elected in respect of which the Office acts as an elected Office): | Yes 21 February 2005 (21.02.2005) |
| VII-2 | The election was made before/after the expiration of 19 months from the priority date: | Before |
| VII-3 | The election or the demand containing the election of the State(s) for which the Office acts as an elected Office has been considered not to have been made or submitted in a declaration made by (the International Bureau/the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority) on (date): | Not applicable |
| VII-4 | The election or the demand containing the election of the State(s) for which the Office acts as an elected Office has been withdrawn by the applicant (date on which withdrawal became effective being the date of receipt of the notice of withdrawal by the International Bureau) (Rule 90is.4): | Not applicable |
| VII-5 | International Preliminary Examining Authority carrying out international preliminary examination: | IPEA/EP |
| VII-6 | International preliminary examination report received by the International Bureau: | No |
| VII-7 | Corrected version(s) of the international preliminary examination report (if any) received by the International Bureau: | Information not available for inclusion in this IASF |

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